

O I P E J C T E
OCT 15 2001

7420

RCE/36628

PTO/SB/30(08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/00. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST

FOR

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or patent application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number

09/281,566

Filing Date

March 30, 1999

First Named Inventor

Gronemeyer

Group Art Unit

3662

Examiner Name

D. Phan

Attorney Docket Number

050321-1180

#25/RCE
Bentley
2/28/02

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the parent term adjustment provision of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice. Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1.

Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

a. ☒

Previously submitted

i. ☐

Consider the amendment(s) (reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on).
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. ☐

Considered the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Replay Brief previously filed on

iii. ☒

Other: Information Disclosure Statement submitted on June 5, 2001

b. ☐

Enclosed

i. ☐

Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐

Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐

Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐

Other:

RECEIVED

OCT 19 2001

GROUP 3600

2.

Miscellaneous.

a. ☐

Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(l) required).

b. ☐

Other:

10/17/2001 SLUANG1 00000010 200778 09281566

01 FC:179

740.00 CH

3.

Fees.

a. ☒

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

i. ☒

RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)

ii. ☐

Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐

Other:

b. ☐

Check in the amount of \$ enclosed

c. ☐

Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)

Robert P. Biddle

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

35,826

Signature

Date

10/12/01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on 10-12-01

Name (Print/Type)

Marianne Boland

Signature

Marianne Boland

Date

10-12-01

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 9.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Office, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. Send Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner of Patents, Box RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231

02/00